Play sinkss fangs in vampire lore

‘Dracula’ offers spooky Halloween-time tale

By Kyle Brunke
Associate Editor

Hypnotic eyes that compel obedience and eternal servitude as their children of the night reverberate throughout the expanse of dimly lighted stage. A vampire spreads his dark cape with a polite, gesturing hand.

The man in black bids you welcome to his Transylvanian castle in this year’s fall production, “Dracula.” Written in 1897 by Irish novelist Bram Stoker, “Dracula” details the ghastly horrors of a mysterious monster and the people determined to destroy him before he destroys them with a deadly bite.

Dramatized in 1927 by Hamilton Deane and John Balderston for a Broadway production, “Dracula” achieved widespread notoriety in the 1931 film adaptation starring Bela Lugosi as the reanimated vampire. Lugosi struggled for the remainder of his career with roles similar to that of the character who had made him famous, culminating in his burial in the mantle of Dracula’s famed attire.

Previously presented at U-High in 1995, “Dracula” will be performed 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 25; Friday, October 26; and Saturday, October 27 in Belfield Theatre. Tickets are on sale for $10 in the High School Lobby.

The U-High production reflects the morbid, dark themes throughout the novel, according to Drama Teacher Leticia Ambrosini, the director.

“This play, by no means, is a modernized version,” Mrs. Ambrosini said. “The play will be set in the 1920s with a fairly gothic tone and authentic costumes. The play is perfect for Halloween and that’s why I chose it. There are no drastic changes; the plot is straight from the original screenplay and captures all the horror and mystery of ‘Dracula.’

The play isn’t an exact imitation of the film adaptation. Because there are many differences when doing live theatre, this is a play production, not a film adaptation.”

Designing the bleak environments of 1920s Pittsburgh (continues on page 2)

Obama tops U-High Presidential picks

By Robin Shapiro
Editor-in-Chief

Although Illinois Senator Barack Obama may be hitting a rough patch on the national campaign trail toward becoming the Democratic candidate for President, at U-High he’s doing just fine.

Senator Obama took 1st place in a U-High Presidential poll last month with 280 (67 percent) of 420 votes.

The other four Democratic candidates received votes as follows: Senator Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), 36 (9 percent); Senator Joe Edwards (D-N.C.), 2 (5 percent); Governor Bill Richardson (D-N.M.), 1 (2 percent); and Congressmen Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), 1 (2 percent).

Republican candidates were topped by former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, 7 (2 percent), followed by Congressman Ron Paul (R-Tex.), 4 (1 percent); Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), 1 (2 percent); Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.), 1 (2 percent); and Congressman Mitt Romney (R-Mass.), 1 (2 percent); and Governor Tommy Thompson (R-Wisc.), 1 (2 percent).

Independent candidate, Attorney Ralph Nader received 1 vote (0.2 percent) and former Vice President Al Gore (D) received 2 votes (0.5 percent). Seventy-two U-Highers (17 percent) declared themselves undecided.

With Senator Clinton ahead in the national polls, many Senator Obama supporters said they feel uneasy about his progress toward the first primary election in January.

Working on Senator Obama’s Presidential Campaign since March, Student Council President Daniel Hornung, said he supports Obama because he is the best candidate to bring about change.

“The polls clearly show that Senator Clinton is ahead,” Daniel said. “I think there are two reasons: Obviously voters are more familiar with Hillary Clinton, and Barack Obama is a new face. Hillary has been running since she was a little girl.

“The primaries are also sequential. They start in Iowa and go to New Hampshire then to South Carolina and Nevada. Right now Obama is up two points in Iowa. I think the momentum from doing well in those first states is really important and it will be hard to win without them.”

Along with Senator Obama’s support from those states, Daniel believes that his views on health care and the war on Iraq prove that he is better equipped for President.

“Also, the states that Obama has been to the most support him because he is out there reminding voters that he cares about the things that are important.

“Right now those issues are health care and Iraq. Obama opposed the war in Iraq and Hillary didn’t vote against the war; she actually gave the President the authority to do it. Obama had the judgment to say no, and I don’t think Hillary has that kind of judgment. I don’t know if I’d be comfortable with her judgment to get the troops out of Iraq and I think we really need a President to see to that.

“As for health care, Obama is taking on drug companies who have lots of power in the process. He is not accepting money from pharmacies, whereas Hillary Clinton is taking the money. Obama is clearly in second place, but I have confidence that Obama can lead to victory.”

Also voting Democratic, Senior Alex Kleiman said she would be happy if either Senator Obama or Senator Clinton won the Presidential race, yet she believes Senator Clinton offers the superior experience.

“I’m not against Senator Obama, but I think Hillary has more experience, especially on her policies on foreign relations, which is an issue I think that we need to be focusing on right now. (continues on page two)
Drug Education starts

By Julie Carlson
Associate editor

U-High’s new drug education program, sophomores will begin a similar program in January. Developed by newly hired Guidance Counselor Camille Baughn-Cunningham, 84 U-High graduate, the program is the school’s first in two years.

During two months of weekly advisory meetings, freshmen and sophomores will learn how to avoid drugs and alcohol situations from Ms. Baughn-Cunningham, Guidance Counselors Ron Tunis and Asra Ahmed and Learning Coordinator Susan Stook.

"The one thing we don’t want to do is lecture," Ms. Baughn-Cunningham explained. "We plan to have interactive discussions and do activities, including role play. Our main goal is to address any questions that students have." The really exciting thing about it is that the idea didn’t come from the top down. It wasn’t just administrators deciding that we needed to do this. It was actually students who came to us and were concerned about their peers and their community.

"Last year, the school held focus groups with this year’s sophomores to get a sense of what they wanted to learn. I think that they really want accurate knowledge and a place to ask for information without worrying." "Going to a parent to ask about drugs might sound frightening to a student, so they wanted a place at school to answer those questions.”

Dean of Students Larry McFarlane encourages upperclassmen to address problems with the counselors.

"The program will eventually work its way up to the juniors and seniors," he said. "What’s starting this year is not suitable for them because it’s based through the advisories, which they don’t have." "We’re not forgetting about the upperclassmen, we’re just trying to find the right medium to work with them.

See a profile of U-High’s new college counselor on page 3.

Election results (continued from front page)

"I don’t think Obama would be a bad President but I think he just needs more experience, especially in foreign relations, and I don’t think being President is the time to figure that out." Considering herself Republican, Senior Dana Alfassa said she would vote for Giuliani because of his experience.

"Giuliani has been tested. When September 11th happened, Giuliani did an unbelievable job in recovering New York City. Obama and Clinton simply don’t have that kind of experience." Other U-Higher votes went to actor Jack Bauer with two votes, Junior Gabe Bump with two votes, Junior Zeke Upshaw and one vote, and Senior Ruqi Tang with one vote.

Can’t tell Remy nothing... He’s eating at the U.M.

EVEN THOUGH his friends are pleading to eat somewhere different for a change, Remy Handrup stands his ground and refuses to eat anywhere other then the University Market. With a delicious variety of sandwiches and a large array of snacks, U.M. is the place to be.

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"I thought the faculty center was dominating. It’s a lie that I tried to score on my own basket, I was creating space for my team."

—Mr. Chris Janus, History

U-HIGHERS went global (photos from top) during Spirit Week, October 1-5, with a clip of the student faculty basketball game posted by Computer Science teacher Baker Franks on www.youtube.com.

THE CROWD chanted as Robert Strickling, senior, wowed down two pies and fellow seniors Emma Cowen and Homer Shew squeaked by in the Monday Pie Eating Contest.

PARADING AROUND school with costumes from their favourite decade, Tuesday U-Highers dressed in everything from long socks to Sophomore Mario Gage’s winning outfit, a valor jumpsuit.

SLAM DUNKS and a second half comeback from a 14 point deficit characterized the all-school assembly Wednesday in Upper Kovler. Senior Markie Room sailed to an earth shattering dunk and Dean of Students Larry McFarlane got ejected for pushing. The students came away victorious, 29-23. Screaming from the bleachers juniors were loudest during the game. Throughout U-Highers dressed in their favorite sports players’ jerseys.

"Mr. Horvat wants to start an assembly program with a total of six assemblies during the year," Student Council President Dan Hornung said. "He came to us to help plan the assembly. We thought the first assembly should be fun and low key. We wanted to continue from previous Spirit Weeks that were exciting." PAYING HOMAGE to their favorite Super Heroes, students wore outfits ranging from Superman to Batman Thursday. To the rescue In a Superman outfit, senior Sage Mahoney was awarded best dressed.

THIS YEAR, Lab Schools Director David Magill banned hallway decorating in light of the previous year’s mess. But U-Highers still showed their colors in the final push of school spirit, wearing their grade’s hue. Seniors came up with the most people in their color.

The seniors emerged the overall victors in Spirit Week competition. Final scores found seniors with seven points, seniors with two, sophomores with one, and freshmen with zero. Sorry ‘bout that, freshmen!

For their tasty victory, seniors will be treated to a pizza party sponsored by student government.
Sophomore Retreat was a great experience because we had a lot of time to bond with each other.

-Isabella Prenta, sophomore.

**SOPHS SERVE, SERVE UP FUN AT RETREAT**

**PHOTO BY LORIN KANE**

AFTER A FOUR-HOUR ride from school, sophomores arrived at Camp Chi in Lake Delton, Wisconsin, for their Retreat, September 24-25. On arrival they played team-building games, then enjoyed an evening at Kalahari Water Park. The next day the U-Highers participated in community service activities.

Sophomore President Jack Brewer believes the Retreat proved beneficial, not only to the class, but also to the communities the sopho helped.

“A few grades got a lot closer,” Jack said. “I know students who made new friends and we helped the community with the service we did. Hopefully this will help out during the required community learning we do this year.”

In the photo Ben Hain, left, and James Phillips cut down a dying tree at McCarthy Park to prepare the site for an at-risk children’s camp.

**CHARACTER SKETCH AMANDA PAPPAS**

**SENT IN TO SAVE THE GAME**

She’s the LAST-MINUTE replacement, just like the person she replaced. She’s the new college counselor, Mrs. Melissa Meltzer Walsh.

Former college counselor Will Dix left just before the school year started. Consequently, college counselor Patty Kovacs immediately contacted Mrs. Walsh, a longtime friend of 20 years. Before working as a college counselor, Mrs. Walsh served as the Admissions Director at DePaul University and Assistant Director of Admissions at the University of Chicago.

“I loved working with students and families at the University of Chicago but that was only about 30 percent of my job,” Mrs. Walsh explained.

“The other 70 was reading applications and visiting high schools. When I was offered the job at U-High I was incredibly excited. I like being a part of an important time in a high schooler’s life and helping them understand the variety of options available to them.”

“I enjoy exploring with the student what their interests are, meaningful times in their lives and I especially enjoy years down the road seeing their results. The long-term relationships I have had with students have been so rewarding.”

Stylish in black slacks, vibrant colored dress shirts and seldom without a Diet Coke, Mrs. Walsh has a relaxed attitude which equips a solid relationship with Mrs. Kovacs.

“I have known Mrs. Kovacs for over 20 years and have looked to her as the model as to how a college counselor should be,” Mrs. Walsh said. “There are very few people of her caliber in our profession and I’m just excited to work with the best of the best.”

With years of experience reading applications, Mrs. Walsh says she feels comfortable writing students’ recommendations.

“I’ve been achieving that by having meetings and conversations with the students as well as reading their essays.”

**BRIEFLY**

**BSA holiday drive rolls on**

The Midwest Workers’ Association, an organization which provides social and health services to working families, will benefit from The Black Students’ Association’s food, clothing and toy drive which runs through the end of the month.

“In this year’s BSA clothing, food and toy drive, each grade is competing to raise the most amount of funds,” said BSA President Artis Lewis, senior. “We’re trying to expand the drive because you can always do more. My responsibility is to sign up and give back.”

**TOP HONOR—Highest rating, All American, has been received from the National Scholastic Press Association for last year’s issues of the Midway. It is the 42nd consecutive year the paper has won the honor. Judges gave the Midway Marks of Distinction for special excellence in Coverage and Concept; Writing and Editing; Photography; Art and Graphics; and Leadership.

Last year’s editors, all now college freshmen, were Phillip Jackson, Jeremy Laucoo, Namrata Patel, Henry Africano, Sarah Fischel, Jacqueline Chaudhury, and Evan Dorfman. The photo editor was Emma Lantos.

**FOURTEEN STUDENTS IN History Teacher Susan Sharpiro’s Holocaust elective class will travel to Washington, D.C., November 17-20. Chaperoned by Mrs. Sharpiro and Mr. Steve Farver, the class will be touring the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and researching for their final paper on an aspect of their choice relating to the Holocaust.

Students scheduled to participate include the following: Ben Cowan, Aravind Bhelanchan, Ellery Gimpel, Balin Hurst, Eva Joques, Sydney Morrey, Elizabeth McGurn, Pratik Upadhy, Sara Sandel, Anne Sawyer, Robin Snigurs, Billy Stevenson, Jason Weiss.

**SEMIFINALISTS—Seventeen seniors have been named Semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship program based on standardized test scores. In the companion Achievement Scholarship program for outstanding African American students, two semifinalists have been named. All now proceed to competition for Finalist status, based on test scores, curriculum involvement, counselor recommendations, grades and essays.

Semifinalists are as follows:


**ACHIEVEMENT—**Daniel Homming, Victoria Rogers

Seniors received Commendation status for high test scores are as follows:


**ACHIEVEMENT—**Artis Lewis

**FRESHMAN VICTORY—** Newly-elected freshmen officers include President, Henry Bergman; vice president, Emily Ehmann; Cultural Union representatives, Sarah Gayvey and Sazia Karapetrova.

Senior Alex Kleinman was elected as senior class C.U. representative replacing Mona Daspugia, who resigned last month.

**RECRUITMENT—**Reaching out to a wider group for the Recruitment Open House, October 21, Admissions Director Michael Veitch says 200 families attended.

“This year we sent out a lot more fliers,” Mr. Veitch said. “We hoped there would be more student participation because there weren’t any other big events going on that weekend.”

More than 300 parents attended the U-High Open House, October 2, Spending 10 minutes in each classroom, parents were given a chance to observe what their children experience in their classes.

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Dewayne Learning Fails - Any Questions on Marijuana?

When's the Lab Period?

Senior Freshman Junior Sophomore

As the Midway Sees It

Something important is missing

Te school is doing something about drug education this year. That's great. But what is being done isn't covering the entire landscape.

U-Highers haven't gotten a drug education program since 2005. This year, though, under new Guidance Counselor Camille Baughn-Cunningham, herself a U-High graduate, a new drug education program has started for freshmen and sophomore advisories.

The idea for the program emerged from student drug groups last spring with current sophomores, Principal Matt Horvat has said.

The counselors are realistic. Ms. Baughn-Cunningham said. They realize that the "just say no" approach isn't always a solution. In an experimental year for the program, only a simple outline for what the program plans to accomplish exists. A major part is hoping students will not think in the moment but rather think about the consequences of drug use.

Knowing that parents are key to the initiative, a meeting was called for freshmen and sophomore parents the evening of September 27 in the cafeteria. First Mr. Horvat explained the new drug program and parental precautions for Homecoming, such as paying close attention to their children's plans for before and after the dance. Then he opened up the floor to questions.

At that time a parent raised her hand and asked what was being done for juniors and seniors in terms of drug education. Mr. Horvat explained how freshmen and sophomores are more impressionable than juniors and seniors. He also briefly mentioned the possibility of a Spring program for seniors to discuss the transition from high school to college.

Even though, it's great that the school has decided to create this program, something is missing. Something big. The Midway staff has been working on a drug use and education issue since the middle of last year and from statistics we've gathered juniors and seniors represent a large part of the drug problem.

What we know is this: Drugs are being sold on school property. Students from every grade are using drugs during both school hours and on weekends U-Highers are driving under the influence and a majority of the student body knows all this is going on. But the school taking an initiative and making a strong public stand, there's no reason juniors and seniors should feel inclined to stop participating in such dangerous activities.

Just because it's more logical to deal with the young students in the new program doesn't mean an attempt shouldn't be made to reach juniors and seniors as well. And now.

Say What?

What do you think of the new lunch program?

Symone Buckner, senior: The food is great and good quality, but they have gotten rid of some of the better aspects of the program. There isn't any pop and chips. I understand that they want to be healthy, but the shishas aren't particularly healthy, so why shouldn't we have pop?

Elisabeth Morant, junior: The caf is like a great cacophony of colors. I guess it does really waking you up in the morning. The food is overpriced. I don't like feeling forced to buy the cafeteria's food. It's good, but it's not worth it.

Emily Kleeman, sophomore: I'm not as happy about it as I was last year. It is good that they don't have candy as easily accessible, though. Now I'm not so tempted to eat all that junk food and I just get a bagel instead.

Henry Bergman, freshman: Even though the food is expensive, it is very good and there is a great variety. The salad bar, for example, is so convenient because you can just pick and choose what you want to have. I would like more food per package though.

Photo by Afton Koster
Tasty touch of Italy in a Chicago bistro

WILD PINK, yellow, red and purple flowers enclose popular outdoor seating at Bice Bistro, located downtown on Delaware. The Italian menu, accented with themes from Tuscany and Lombardy, is familiar to me because I worked there last summer. When the owner of the Cub's and his wife in casual attire (at their usual table) recognized a former hostess, it reminded me of how the restaurant and customers are like extended family. With a sense of relaxed European attitude, Bice has a friendly atmosphere that welcomes newcomers while also encouraging regulars to return.

ENJOYING DINNER at Bice Bistro, Van Hopper and Mona Dasgupta savor two pasta dishes with crusty bread.

T.V. DAVID MCALPINE

`Kid Nation' more than just kid stuff

FORTY DAYS. 40 kids. One nation. The bold tagline of CBS’ new reality hit "Kid Nation" may promise too much as the experience of no adult supervision has proven too hard for the kids in the show.

Airing Wednesday nights at 7, "Kid Nation" is centered around a group of 40 kids from ages 8 to 15 upkeeping the fictional ghost town Bonanza City. Their tasks seem manageable, but the production crew had to leave a lot out that actually happened, including four kids drinking bleach from an unmarked soda bottle and a girl burning her face with splattered grease.

The potentially most controversial show of the season has quickly turned into a thought-provoking program, with the kids providing insightful commentary. It wouldn't be a reality show, however, without competition. Each week, districts of kids vie for status in the town, better pay and rewards.

"Kid Nation" may not have lived up to its hype, but the ratings are holding and a second season is under way. Although we may not have seen the unshown incidents that originally brought the show to fame, the backstories and surprising deep insights of every cast member makes "Kid Nation" a definite show to watch.

MUSIC NATHAN BISHOP

Kanye West triumphs with artistry plus appeal

HE'S BACK and bigger than ever. On his highly anticipated album "Graduation" ( Roc-A-Fella) Kanye West has churned out some of the most creative and flavorful singles hip-hop has seen in a long time.

Recent chart toppers, such as "Crack That" by Soulja Boy Tell 'Em, drone on with unoriginal lyrics, barely any rhyming and only one annoyingly infectious beat. Thankfully, "Graduation" breaks away from the mainstream hip-hop scene. Unlike his poors, Kanye blends together innovative beats with potent and playful rhymes. His originality especially shines through on tracks like "Stronger" and "Champion," which feature incredibly imaginative samplings from Daft Punk and Steely Dan, respectively.

Setting the stage for the perfect battle of hip-hop supremacy, Kanye chose to release "Graduation" September 11, when 50 Cent released his new album, "Curtis." Outraged, 50 Cent reportedly said that he would retire if Kanye sold more records than him. "Graduation" sold 437,000 copies its first day, while "Curtis" sold only 310,000 in the same amount of time. 50 Cent, time to throw in the towel.

One constant throughout the album is Kanye's notorious ego, which is funny at times, but can get a little old (almost all of the songs on the album have to do with his success and fame). Unlike on his previous two albums, Kanye has matured from 20-song sagas to a tightened 15 attention-grabbing tracks on "Graduation." "Stronger," the album's top single, doesn't quite hit as hard as his previous successes, but improves with every play. "Champion" and "Good Life" boast intricate layers of instruments, back up vocals and sampling so entertaining you don't even know you're moving your feet.

Maybe we should do as Kanye says on "Stronger" and "bow in the presence of greatness."

FILM JULIE CARLSON

Remake proves the real heartbreak here

BEN STILLER is getting old. Physically, his age shows through the growing number of wrinkles on his face and gray hairs on his head. In his career, it shows through his newest film, "The Heartbreak Kid."

Despite being loosely based on Elaine May's legendary 1972 film, which starred Charles Grodin and Cybill Shepherd, the two films share little except for a title. The new "Heartbreak Kid" follows 40 year old Eddie Can- trow (Stiller) as he prematurely marries his seemingly perfect girlfriend of six weeks, Lila (Malin Akerman). Of course, she is secretly psychotic.

On their honeymoon, Eddie meets and begins to date Miranda (Michelle Monaghan), a fellow vacationer who is unaware of Eddie's recent nuptials. Directors Bobby and Peter Farrelly use plenty of their trademark raunchy humor and foul language that made earlier projects like "There's Something About Mary" and "Dumb and Dumber" famous.

But as the film progresses, so does the audience's hatred for Eddie. Without even trying to mend his relationship with Lila, Eddie discards her for another girl who he hardly knows, proving his true womanizing nature. All protagonists have flaws, but it's impossible to find a redeeming quality in Eddie. No wonder he was still single at 40.

Expected to earn $25 million in its opening weekend, October 5-7, "The Heartbreak Kid" earned only $14 million. The low turnout indicates that audiences are tired of seeing Stiller play a neurotic man who falls in love. It wasn't funny in "Along Came Polly" and it isn't funny here. Maybe the Farrelly Brothers simply can no longer compete with new comedic directors like Judd Apa- tow.

Overall, it seems the biggest heartbreak in
Dracula

(continued from front page)

By Nathan Bishop

Associate editor

Lights flicker, the doorbell rings and sitting on the couch in his family’s Hyde Park home early in the morning, Daniel Tannah isn’t startled, knowing it’s just his new housekeeper. Daniel’s family had gotten accustomed to its ghost, which has since departed (again).

Daniel’s family had gotten accustomed to its ghost, which has since departed (again). The house’s previous occupants had reported the haunting went on for about four years and it just stopped two or three years ago,” Daniel explained. “We called the ghost Lee. I think my mom gave it that name. Sometimes a doorbell in the house would ring randomly or a light would turn on and off; those were the two main things.

The hauntings weren’t scary. They were more light and a joke. When someone would come into the room the lights would just start to turn on and off. I guess sometimes it would get a bit spooky. We never knew for sure.

When I got to the basement, I was surprised to find that no one had gone in or come out of the house. Shortly after that, I was taking a bath and the mirror in the bathroom popped open and swung with a crack. I looked down at the bathroom tile and there I saw the reflection of a face, then I looked up at the light fixture and saw a face in the light.

I was sitting in my bedroom and I had to do laundry and my washing and drying machines are in the basement. I went down the stairs, threw the clothes in the wash and then put some of the clothes on hangers in a pile in my arms. I dropped something, and when I turned around to pick it up, I heard a very faint voice say, “Wait.”

I really wanted to know what the voice was saying. I realized one of the hangers was caught on a chord about to knock over a lamp. I was really panicked and ran upstairs to call my friend.

But one of the ghosts has haunted the west suburban Westchester home of Haunted House Tour organizing team member Paul Frankel.

"Before I moved in and had put in any furniture, I was driving by the house and heard the 'haunting"’s’ voice,” Frankel said. "I was in the garage, but when I turned my head to see who was talking, I was startled. I told him that if I didn’t contact him in 10 minutes, that he should call the police. I had just installed an alarm system, so I was really concerned that no one had gone in or came out of the house. Shortly after that, I was taking a bath and the mirror in the bathroom popped open and swung with a crack. I looked down at the bathroom tile and there I saw the reflection of a face, then I looked up at the light fixture and saw a face in the light.

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I realized one of the hangers was caught on a chord about to knock over a lamp. I was really panicked and ran upstairs to call my friend."
Ghosts and fortune tellers and brides, oh my!

**The Bride of Mount Carmel**

*by Midway editor-in-chief Dana Alfassa, Mona Dasgupta and David McAlpine*

Photos by Bruno Desreens

In 1929, this woman named Julia Down as the "Italian Bride," lived with huge. She died giving birth stillborn, too. A life-size statue cementing her in her wedding dress, which clung picture on the front of the tombstone. Right after Julia died, her mother began experiencing a dream where Julia kept visiting her and calling out to her, telling her she was still alive. I paused to take a breath and weave into the far lane, already caught in fairly heavy traffic.

"Her mother had these dreams for six whole years, during which her mother begged city and archdiocesan officials to exhume Julia's body. When she was finally dug up, the coffin showed obvious signs of wear, but the corpse looked completely untouched. Many were there who claimed that it looked as if she never died. There's a picture of that on her tomb, too."

Mona and Dana shifted uneasily as I darted off of the Eisenhower onto Roosevelt Road via Austin Avenue, sensing the cemetery would close if we didn't get out of traffic.

"In the photo, her flesh is neither discolored nor dessicated and none of the body is bloated—it looks pristine preserved. Many think her body is incorruptible, which is a sign of sanctity, but lots contribute it to the soil in the ground. Inscribed around the picture is the phrase *Quanta fotografía prestó sa mi morte, which means 'This photo was taken six years after her death.'"

Turning down Wolf Road, then Harrison Street almost an hour after we began our journey I parked on a small side street. We crossed back over Harrison as the sun was setting and passed through two large, green iron gates into the cemetery silent a half hour before closing, looking for a life-size stone bride.

"There it is!" Mona whispered excitedly as she pointed to the left. Walking down the concrete path, the three of us came to face Julia's grave and walked precariously on the grass, sidestepping the smaller gravestones in the ground in front of Julia's. As we approached, I stopped, suddenly having some scent of roses, a characteristic Julia's visitors experience. Dana and around and gave me a crazy look. Standing in of the seemingly larger statue, than Dana and Mona didn't exist."

Photo by Bruno Desreens

Reflecting on all that I had just learned, I left the Journalism Office with an eerie feeling, not sure what a guest actually visited.

Reflections on the supernatural existing in this world...
Meet the people behind the lunch line

A new crew becomes a familiar part of the U-High family and school day

Long lines numbering more than 400 students signal the beginning of the lunchtime scramble for Aramark cuisine, the Lab Schools’ new cafeteria provider for fresh sandwiches, gourmet pizzas, spicy fajitas, fruit flavored smoothies and a surprising parade of featured hot lunches daily. In their constant back and forth routine between kitchen and eager appetites, each cafeteria worker reveals who he or she is, where he or she came from and why the new lunch program has proven so successful.

Mr. Irving Barnes—Vivid in an avocado green chef coat, cohoad chef Mr. Barnes, 32, said he considers himself a child at heart. Growing up in the Austin neighborhood on the West Side, Mr. Barnes discovered his passion for food as a child by barbecuing with his grandmother and mother. “As I got older, I cooked more and more,” Mr. Barnes explained. “Cooking is a big deal in the black community, especially barbecuing. We used to have a lot of family parties, so I got a lot of practice from that. Now I have six kids and I encourage them to cook on the grill because I want them to have the same experience as I did.” After four years as a cook for a chef at the University of Illinois at Chicago for two years, in addition to corporate catering at a Marriott Hotel for three years, Mr. Barnes said he hopes to gain more experience in the culinary arts at Cafe Lab. “I came to Aramark for two reasons,” Mr. Barnes said. “I wanted more experience but secretly I hope that one day I can start my own catering company.”

Ms. Alicia Culverson—Duminutive Ms. Culverson, 21, prepares, fills and cleans the salad bar. Balancing her job at Aramark, Ms. Culverson works the grill Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Bliq 47, a high profile American Cuisine restaurant at 4655 Martin Luther King Drive. “I like how different my two jobs are,” Ms. Culverson explained. “Since Bliq 47 is a fine dine, you don’t know what to expect. But here, nothing really changes. I like the easy going attitude because I do need a break. Not only that but I learn new things here. For instance, the other day I learned how to cook hummus. It was great.”

Ms. Lakesh Harden—Distinctively diminutive Lakesh Harden has a hair accession. For many days, Ms. Harden, 24, prepares pizzas. She worked at Marshall Field’s for two years. “At Marshall Field’s, I used to make salads,” Ms. Harden explained. “It was nice. But after a while I got tired of it. I feel like Aramark is more hands-on. 'There’s so many different ways you can cook different entrees. For instance, the other day I was just playing around with how many combinations I could make out of pizza ingredients. I feel like I can do that more here because the variety of the menu allows it, which is pretty good compared to other schools.”

Mr. Kenneth Harris—Nicknamed “teddy bear” by his coworkers, Mr. Harris, 23, sous chef, says he never hesitated about becoming a chef. “I always knew I wanted to be a chef.” Mr. Harris explained. “But especially during high school, I went to Richard J. Daley High School, which helped me a lot in choosing my major. I just fell in love with cooking. It’s just a lot of fun because it doesn’t even feel like a job.” Kenneth worked as a shift manager at Pizza Hut for four years.

Mr. Oziad Porter—Known to flash an infectious grin whenever a student walks into the cafeteria line, Mr. Porter, 30, cooks food on the grill. “The good thing about Aramark is the people,” Mr. Porter explained. “Everyone on the staff is friendly as well as hard working. We are all like a big old family. It’s definitely a school grant recipients. But no, really, I have no problem being the only white person because it doesn’t matter. This school is so diverse and full of kids that are very food savvy.” Growing up watching “Great chefs of America” on PBS, Mr. Steinmetz worked as Aramark’s supervising chef at Chase Plaza downtown for three years.

Ms. Yolanda Tyler—Gregarious with a commanding voice, Ms. Tyler, 26, works as a cashier. “I used to work at the Sears headquarters building,” Ms. Tyler said. “But it was a three-hour commute. I felt like it wasn’t worth being that far away from my home and my daughters. Cafe Lab was a good alternative for me, seeing that it was close to home. Not only that, but the students have no attitude and are not disrespectful, which helps a lot. The faculty is also really great, which makes working here so much better.”

Ms. Lisa O’Brien—“I call myself the ‘Deli Lady,’ I make all the deli sandwiches and fruit cups,” said Ms. O’Brien, 45. “Food service is in my blood. My mom used to be an executive chef at Northwestern University. She taught me all about the exciting cooking can be day after day.” Ms. O’Brien managed a White Hen Pantry for 15 years. She also worked as a security guard at Northwest Middle School in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Senior gets invention grant

Receiving a $10,000 grant from the national Iven Teams competition, a program sponsored by Lembol-Massachusetts Institute of Technology that rewards creative invention ideas, senior Ben Picker hopes to patent a service that would allow students to instantly design their own meals online and enjoy them in the school cafeteria.

Chosen by a panel of judges from MIT, Harvard University and industry representatives, Ben is among 15 other high school recipients. Ben is currently putting together a team to develop a pancake machine. The machine could include Seniors May Fu, Kenan Gunor, Xuneeb Hai, Lienan Xu, Zhe Zhang and Junior Nico Gomez. Faculty supervisor includes Ms. Marty Billinger, Mr. The rest of the, Mr. Baker Frankie, Mr. Chris Harper and Ms. Shaon Housinger.

“Ben’s been trying to express something academically,” Ben said. “Think of iTunes, take away the music and replace it with recipes. Students purchase the recipes online and they adjust them to their pleasure and choose the location where the food is picked up. I chose the food concept because my sister likes pancakes.”
Hard-playing soccermen just miss top

By Gabe Bump
Associate editor

Despite winning almost every Conference game by three or more goals, the boys’ varsity soccer team had to settle for a second place finish in the Independent-School League behind powerhouse Lake Forest Academy.

When the teams faced off September 27 on Jackman Field, FA came away with a 2-0 victory, resulting in the Maroons’ inability to capitalize on scoring opportunities, according to Coach Mike Moses.

“Although we only lost by a margin of seven great scoring opportunities,” Mr. Moses said. “LFA is in the premier league and I’d say every other school in the league is a little behind them. Just because they don’t have to follow IHSA rules in terms of getting students athletes to come to their school.”

While the team battled injuries within the starting line up all season, Coach Moses feels the team didn’t really get used to the necessary adjustments.

“ Injury wise we never got over the hump,” Coach Moses said. “For example, if we had Zach for the entire season some of those ties may have been wins. But with so many different injuries you have to try to move players around.

“Players also feel they can immediately come back and play. After an injury, but you have to get your 10th and even your senior I.Q. back which takes time.

For Nate Wise, co-captain with Phil Bohan and Morgan Murphy, all juniors, and Ben Picker, senior, impressive wins against conference rivals as well as large ruin schools provide a testament to the great strides the team has made.

“Last year we lost to Lincoln Park 1-0 and this year we beat them 6-0,” Nate said. “Also the last couple years we’ve mostly tied or lost to Morgan Park and Parker but this year we’ve blown both of them out of the water.”

“Being 2nd place to LFA doesn’t show how hard we’ve worked this season. We have proven what we are capable of and we’re putting Lab on the map.”

Finishing the season undefeated, J.V. proved they could compete with larger schools at the beginning of the season and never looked back, according to Coach Tom Piana.

“J.V. is ready to set the tone for the rest of the season,” Mr. Piana said. “We won 1-0 at home, after that we felt we could play competitive competition. We also tied Lane Tech 3-3 and they were the best team we’ve played all year.”

“It’s hard to name just one leader on the team. Even though Andy Harris and Nathaniel Cuss-Crane were our coin-toss captains, I told all the sophomores they were all pretty much captains.”


Volleyball squad, 2nd in ISL, gears up for Regionals

By Mona Dagupeta
Editor-in-Chief

“We need to cover the short balls and work on our passing to win Regionals,” Captain Christina Verdirande, junior, said. Girls’ varsity volleyball faces Illinois Math and Science Academy 2 p.m., Saturday, in Upper Kovler in its first round of Regionals. If the Maroons champion IMSA, they will go on to face Nazareth Academy for the Regional title 3 p.m., Saturday, at home.

“We need to keep the momentum on the floor and we need to keep the pressure up,” Christina said. “We’re not the tallest team, nor are we the most skilled but I still think we can beat them because when we’re meshed, we pull it together and win.”

Tied for 2nd in the Independent School League with Latin behind Lake Forest Academy, varsity finished with a 10-4 Conference record, 15-6 overall.

“We play better when we play harder teams,” Christina said. “Lake Forest Academy was definitely our toughest contender this year. Both of those games were really intense and we did really well considering how well we were doing.

Ending its season with the Maroons J.V. Volleyball Tournament October 29, finished its Conference season 7-5, 8-5 overall and placed 3rd behind Latin and Morgan Park.

Scores not previously mentioned are as follows:


SHIELDING THE BALL from an oncoming Lake Forest Academy forward, Captain Nate Wise, junior, looks to dribble up field during a September 27 home match. The Maroons came short, losing 2-0.

Photo by Jeremy Handcup

SHEilding the ball from an oncoming Lake Forest Academy forward, Captain Nate Wise, junior, looks to dribble up field during a September 27 home match. The Maroons came short, losing 2-0.

Photo by Jeremy Handcup

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Photo by Alex Foster

REACHING OVER the net, Mona Dagupeta and Christina Verdirande attempt a block during an October 4 home match against Morgan Park Academy.


Photo by Alex Foster
Tennis girls make record books with first Sectional title

By Dana Alfassas
Editor-in-Chief

As Senior Alex Guynn and Freshman Rachel Sylora weary stepped off their home court, October 13, after defeating Marist’s number one doubles pair in straight sets, the Maroons made U-High history, clinching the first girls’ tennis Sectional victory.

Captain Alex and Rachel were among a record five Maroons to qualify for State, October 18-20 at various sites in the northwest suburbs. Results came past midway deadline.

"After Rachel and I defeated Marist and advanced to the doubles finals, we knew the team had enough points to win the whole thing," said Alex, whose performance at Sectionals marked her fourth consecutive advancement to State. "Mother McAuley has won Sectionals for the past two years but since McAuley lost their big hitter Annie McCarthy they weren’t as strong a contender this year. We knew we had a shot, but it really took everyone, even those who didn’t qualify for State, to win. Margot Turek fell just short of a State qualification for number two singles, but by winning her first match she earned more points for the team as a whole.”

"Also, Sofia Iatara and Leah Sibener qualified at second doubles and the two complemented each other perfectly. Leah usually played singles, which helped her play a great defensive game. Sofia played really well at the net, which is something our team had been working at all season. On the second day, Gabbie Clark had a phenomenal performance at number one singles and defeated Morgan Park High School’s Gia McKnight, who is two years older than her and last year’s Sectional runnerup. It was a really tense three match set, which earned Gabbie the Sectional Singles Championship.”

Compiling an 8-3 overall record (6-1 Independent School League), the team finished 3rd in ISL behind Woodlands and Lake Forest Academy.

Ending their season with a 2-3 loss to Lake Forest Academy, October 10 at home, j.v. racked up an impressive 6-1 ISL record (8-4 overall). The Maroons’ 4-1 victory over Conference rival Latin, September 11 at home, climax the season, believes Junior Ruigi Tang.

"The Latin victory was huge for us because their team plays such a consistent and aggressive game," Ruigi said. "We really held our own and Faith Drewmer had an unbelievable comeback at number two singles. She was down 1-6 and came back which is just amazing. Her ball has become really high and deep with a lot of spin on it. Her footwork and consistency helped her win a lot of matches for us.”

All scores are as follows:

Tatymona Chritian, August 27, home: Varsity won 7-0, j.v. won 7-0.
Woodlands, August 28, away: Varsity lost 2-3, j.v. won 5-0.
Parker, August 30, home: Varsity won 6-1, j.v. won 5-0.
Morgan Park Academy, September 4, away: Varsity won 4-1, j.v. won 5-0.
Latin, September 11, away: Varsity won 4-1, j.v. won 4-1.
Shedd Doubles Tournament, September 15, away: Varsity placed 1st behind Stagg, Beacon and Marist. "We Beat Stagg, Beacon and September 17, home: Varsity lost 2-3, j.v. lost 0-4.
Egin Academy, September 18, home: Varsity won 6-0, j.v. won 6-0.
Sandburg, September 19, away: Varsity won 6-1, j.v. lost 1-4.
Lake Forest Academy, September 29, home: Varsity lost 1-4, Fenwick, October 1, home: Varsity won 3-2, j.v. lost 3-4.
St Ignatius, October 2, away: j.v. won 3-2.
Bizzell Christian, October 9, home: j.v. won 4-1.
Lake Forest Academy, October 10, home: j.v. lost 3-0.

Delivering a powerful volley, Alex Guynn takes on Elgin Academy with her doubles partner Rachel Sylora September 18 at home. The Maroons defeated the Hilltoppers 5-0.

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U-HIGH MIDWAY • TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2007

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Trent’s Photography

Photo by Havana Kelo

Fiery diving past a Northside College Prep competitor, Hannah Solomon-Strauss helps her team take on the Mustangs September 18 at Rafter Center. The Maroons went on to lose 78-72.

Talented swimmers strategize before facing northside rival

By Anna Katz Zibrowkski
Associate editor

Concentrating on cutting times with intensive repeat drills, all swimmers are gearing up for a meet against Regina Dominican, 4:30 p.m. today at Raether Center.

Confident about a win, Hillary Gimple, co-captain with Hannah Solomon-Struass, Jinnie Madsen, Liwe Xu, Polina Ryzhik, Sara Sandmel and Anna Katz Zibrowkski, believes the girls will dominate the Panthers with their improving scores. All the captains are seniors.

"Based on our performance last year I think we will dominate at the Regina meet," Hillary said. "I think the team will be very supportive in the quest against Regina Dominican. Everyone on the team has really pushed to achieve their best. Kaia Tammen has really been dedicated and optimistic. Anna Katz Zibrowkski, the veteran breaststroker has improved tremendously. Aimee Lucido dropped time in the 600 free and Caroline Bank continues to be amazing in the fly.”

Climaxed by an invitational meet at Illinois State University, November 3 in downtown Normal, upcoming competition includes a tri-meet against Whitney Young and Bishop McNamara, October 30 at home.

"Normal is always a highlight in the season besides Sectionals and State," Hannah explained. "It's the team's last meet and it's great because we get to see how far we've come. It's a unique meet because we spend about 12 hours together doing handstands in the warm up pool, going out to dinner, ordering a cake for the coach even though it isn't his birthday, sleeping on the bus. It's a great way to end the season. We're the smallest school there and the only one not from there so it's a test for us.”

With four meets remaining, the team of 10 returnees and nine newcomers had racked up a 3-4 record as of Midway deadline.

All scores are as follows:

Benedin Prefallbath, August 27, away: Varsity won 76-5, j.v. won 53-37.
University High School Urbana, September 4, home: Varsity won 89-94, Latin Forest Academy, September 11, away: Varsity won 100-57.
University High School Urbana, September 28, home: Varsity lost 70-98.
Latin, October 5, away: Varsity lost 90-10, j.v. lost 57-67.
Lake Forest Academy, October 9, home: Varsity won 108-9.
St Ignatius, October 10, away: Swallows post Midway deadline.

All scores are as follows:

Riverside Brookfield Invitational, September 15, away: Varsity lost 90-10, j.v. lost 57-67.
Lake Forest Academy, October 9, home: Varsity won 108-9.
St Ignatius, October 10, away: Swallows post Midway deadline.

Photo by Havana Kelo
SOPHORS step up in golf, get to Sectional contest

By Ruqi Tang
Midway reporter

Struggling to overcome the loss of four seniors from last year's team, including star golfer Nick Davis, the golf squad eventually found powerful talent in two underclassmen. Sophomores Evan Levin and Bill Stueben advanced to Sectionals individually, at Regionals at Links of Carrillon in Plainfield, October 1.

Finishing with a 1-6 record, the team of three returned to the tournament. Newcomers placed 8th of eight Independent School League teams.

"It was a tough year all around because we lacked players who knew the courses and provided leadership," Evan said. "Me, Bill Stueben and (Captain) George Yates had to take on more responsibilities, which wasn't easy, especially for me and Bill since we are both sophomores."

Learning golf during summer vacation three years ago, Evan says he quickly mastered the game. After playing for a fun at a resort in New Mexico, I asked my dad to take me out to hit some more," Evan said. "Although no one in my family actually plays the sport, I picked it up after that summer and learned the game by myself. Golf, for me, was a different sport than everything else because rather than playing against an opponent, you play against yourself so it's a lot more mental."

At Sectionals, October 8 at Arrow Golf Course in Lockport, Evan and Bill failed to meet the State qualifying score of 81.

Meet results were as follows:

Sports briefs: Gridiron rematch

"We will unleash our secret plays, the annexation of Puerto Rico and Blue 45, against Mount Carmel," said Flag Football head coach Scotty Craig, co-captain with Robert Strickling, John Wasik and Mike McCarthy, all seniors.

In a rematch of a 21-28 overtime defeat, the team of 26 returnees and two newcomers will face the Carmine at 3:15 p.m., Friday on the Midway.

"We run a tight zone defense which is very effective at stopping the run," Scotty said. "We will take advantage of our solid defensive line to come out with the win this time."

MARATHON - U-Highers who watched the Chicago Marathon, October 7, on channel 2 might have heard a familiar voice. Track and Cross Country Coach Bud James provided the station's color commentary for the seventh year. U-Highers helped out too.

EIGHTEEN cross country runners volunteered as course marshals, cheering up spectators of a stretch of the 26.2 mile course.

Make Prom the best night of your life!

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Homecoming heats up dancegoers

"The heat was unbearable. I was sweating buckets the whole night. Nonetheless, I still got my groove on."
—Joe Boivert, junior

WHILE A CROWD cheered them on, Antonio Robles and Nisha Duara competed in a dance-off.

ROCKING STYLISH dress shirts detailed with sequins, Maggie Carton, Jackie Robertson and Amy Northrup danced, while some 20 others sat in chairs around the dance floor talking. Taking place in a new location this year in Ida Noyes, some 200 Homecoming goers were not prepared for the unexpected heat in a room with two fans. Many dancegoers sat out from several dances to recuperate from the temperature.

WITH DJ Jamal Smallz playing fast beats, most dancegoers were on their feet all evening, even in the unexpected heat.

KINGS & QUEENS

Seniors

Juniors

Sophomores

Freshmen

FOLLOWING THE decided senior class jersey theme, Sage Mahoney and Jessica Michel ignored the sweltering heat in short jersey dresses and heels. Other fashions included peep toe heels with jeans and simple toned mini dresses with flats.

DANCING TO the beat, Dana Alfassa and Jenny Harris flaunted chic babydoll dresses with patent leather pumps. Selling refreshments in the back, the Senior Prom Committee sold out of water in the first hour from the humidity.